



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-3000

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Jimmy Tobias
MuckRock
DEPT MR 44361
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

SEP - 3 2019

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request
FOIA Control No.: 18-FI-HQ-00048

Dear Mr. Tobias:

This letter is a final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated October 7, 2017. Your request was received on October 10, 2017. You asked for a copy of the following from March 2, 2017, through the date this request is processed:

1. All available calendars, daily itineraries, and schedules of activities of Ben Carson, Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.
2. List of all gifts that HUD Secretary Ben Carson has received, to include the origin of each gift, description of each gift, and the estimated monetary value of each gift.

Your request is granted in part. In a letter dated January 30, 2018, you received documents responsive to item 2 of your request. Enclosed are copies of documents responsive to item 1 of your request. The Department is withholding access codes, cell phone numbers, personal appointments (medical and children's), personal events (weddings, baptisms, children's events), homeowner and family member names, home addresses, frequent flyer numbers, private discount codes, and personal email addresses under Exemption 6 of the FOIA. Exemption 6 protects information that would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The interest of the general public in reviewing those portions of government documents does not outweigh the individuals' right to privacy. The Department is also withholding portions of calendar entries under Exemption 5 of the FOIA. Exemption 5 protects documents that are inter-agency or intra-agency, which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with HUD, and are exempt from disclosure. The release of this internal information would reflect HUD's pre-decisional, deliberative process, and would discourage open and candid advice, recommendations, and exchanges of views within the Department, which could bring about public scrutiny of the individuals and the need to justify in public their tentative opinions.

I am the official responsible for this determination based on information provided by the Department's Office of the Executive Secretariat and Office of General Counsel. You may appeal this determination within 90 days from the date of this letter. If you decide to appeal, your appeal should include copies of your original request and this response, as well as a discussion of the reasons supporting the appeal. With regard to Exemption 6, your appeal should address the nature

of the overriding public interest in disclosure that outweighs the personal privacy interest protected by the exemption. The envelope should be plainly marked to indicate that it contains a FOIA appeal and be addressed to:

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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Attention: FOIA Appeals
Office of Ethics and Appeals Law Division
Office of General Counsel
451 Seventh Street, SW, Suite 2130
Washington, DC 20410

Telephone: (202) 708-3815

You may also submit your appeal online at:

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/foia/foiaappeals.

In addition, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows:

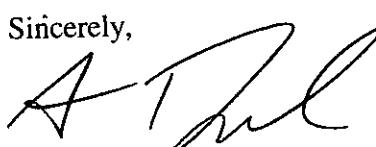
Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001

Telephone: 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448
FAX: 202-741-5769
Email: ogis@nara.gov

For your information, your FOIA request, including your identity and any information made available, is releasable to the public under subsequent FOIA requests. In responding to these requests, the Department does not release personal information, such as home address, telephone number, or Social Security number, all of which are protected from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 6.

If you have any questions regarding your request, you may contact Eugene McGirt at (202) 402-4315. Thank you for your interest in the Department's programs and policies.

Sincerely,


for Deborah R. Snowden
Deputy Chief FOIA Officer
Office of the Executive Secretariat